

NOTES

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PORT EXPLORER

Bay of Islands NEW ZEALAND

GENERAL INFORMATION Famed for its stunning coastal scenery, the Bay of Islands is one of the country's major tourist attractions.

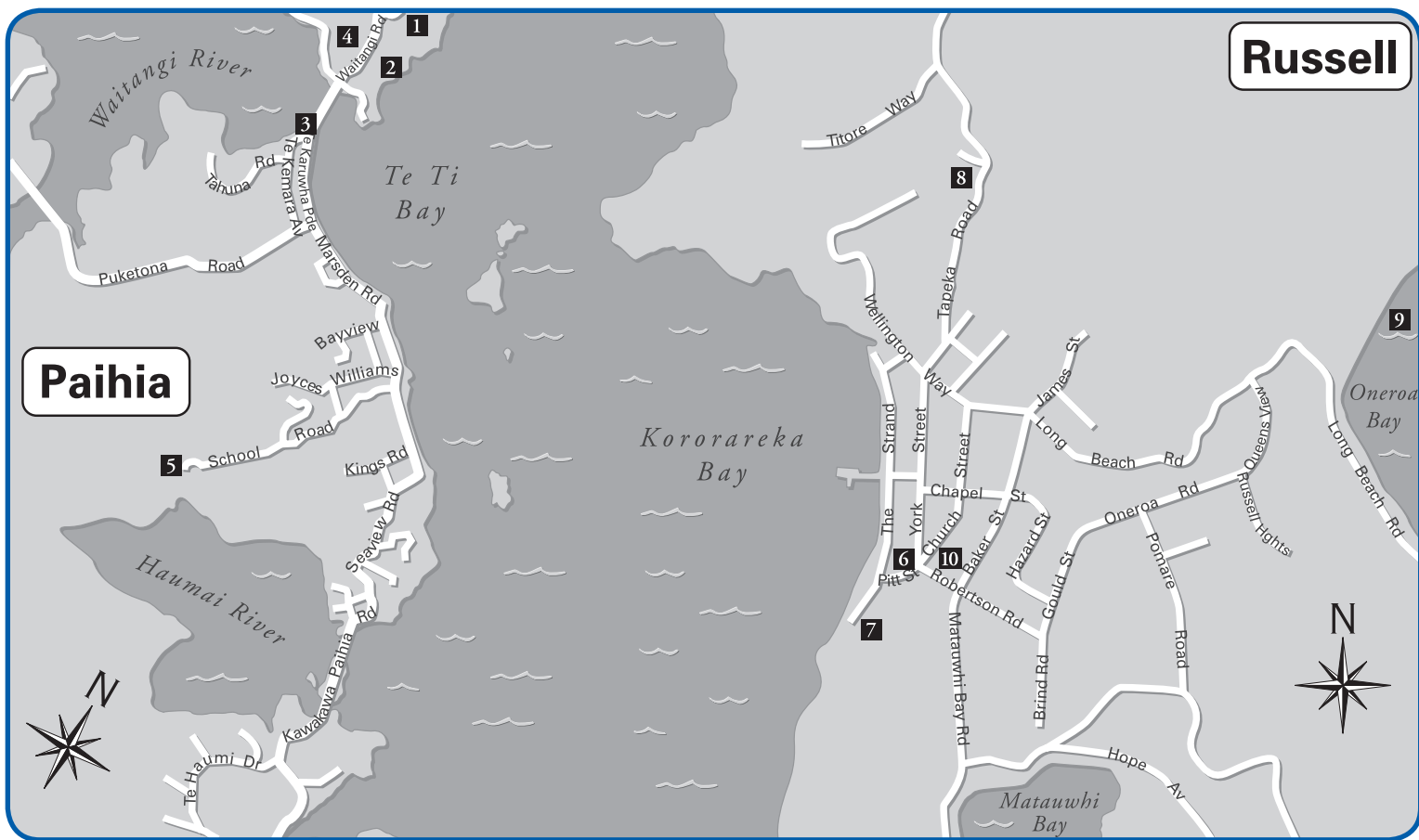
HISTORY The main town in the area, Paihia, was settled by Europeans as a mission station in 1823 when the first raupo (bullrush) hut was built for the Reverend Henry Williams.

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History continued

attacking from the south and another Maori war party attacking from Long Beach. While the troops rushed off to protect the township, Hone Heke removed the hated symbol of European authority on Maiki Hill for the final time. The Pakehas were forced to evacuate to ships lying at anchor off the settlement. The captain of HMS Hazard was wounded severely in the battle and the first lieutenant ordered the ships' cannons to be fired on the town, during the course of which most of the buildings were destroyed. Russell today is a relaxed, peaceful and pretty little place. It's a marked contrast to the neon hustle of Paihia across the bay.

POINTS OF INTEREST

Paihia & Waitangi

1 Waitangi Treaty House The Treaty House in Waitangi has special significance as the start of the European history of New Zealand. Built in 1832 as the home of British Resident James Busby, eight years later it was the setting for the signing of the historic Treaty of Waitangi. The house is preserved as a memorial and museum. Situated at the end of Marsden Road.

Beyond the Treaty House a road climbs Mt Bledisloe, from where there are commanding views of the area. Beginning from the Visitors Centre, a walking track takes off through the reserve, passing through the mangrove forest around Hutia Creek and on to Haruru Falls. The walkway has a boardwalk among the mangroves so you can explore them without getting your feet wet. The walk to the falls takes about 1 1/2 hours each way

2 Ngatokimatawhaorua Maori War Canoe Down the cove from the Waitangi Treaty House is the largest war canoe in the world, named after the canoe in which the Maori ancestor Kupe discovered New Zealand. A photographic exhibit details how the canoe was made from two gigantic kauri trees.

3 Kelly Tarlton's Shipwreck Museum The old Sailing ship, Tui, is imaginatively setup as a museum of shipwrecks besides the bridge over the the Waitangi River.

4 Haruru Falls Just upstream from the Tui are the Haruru Falls, also accessible via the walkway through the Waitangi National Reserve.

5 Opu Forest Just behind Paihia is the Opu Forest, a regenerating forest with a small stand of kauris, and a number of walking tracks ranging from 10 minutes to three hours in length.

Russell

6 Russell Museum The Russell Museum was built for the bicentenary of Cook's Bay of Islands visit in 1769. It is small but it houses maritime exhibits, displays relating to Cook and his voyages, and a fine model of his barque Endeavour, in addition to a collection of early settler's relics.

7 Pompallier House On a lovely waterfront site, is Pompallier House, built to house the printing works for the Roman Catholic mission founded by the French missionary

Bishop Pompallier in 1841. It also served as a tannery and only in the 1870s was converted to a private home. It is one of the oldest houses in New Zealand and has a small museum.

8 Flagstaff Hill Overlooking Russell is Maiki (Flagstaff Hill), where Hone Heke made his attacks. The fifth flagpole has stood for a lot longer than the first four. The view is well worth the trip.

9 Oneroa Bay Just behind Russell to the east is Oneroa Bay, with a beautiful beach, also known as donkey Beach or Long Beach. It's about a 15-minute walk from the Russell wharf, heading over the hill on Long Beach Road.

10 Christ Church This is the oldest church in New Zealand. Built in 1835, it is scarred with musket and cannon ball holes, and it has an interesting graveyard.

SHORE EXCURSIONS To make the most of your visit to the Bay of Islands and surrounding areas we suggest you take one of our organized Shore Excursions. For information concerning tour content and pricing, consult your Shore Excursion Brochure, Shore Excursion TV Channel or contact the Shore Excursion Desk. When going ashore, guests are advised to take with them only the items they need and to secure any valuables.

LOCAL CUSTOMS Tipping: Tips or gratuities are not normally expected for normal service in New Zealand. However, you may wish to show your appreciation by tipping for extra service or kindness.

Local Cuisine: Paihia has a big selection of restaurants scattered around, particularly in the shopping mall opposite the Maritime Centre and the post office. There are several cafes in Russell including the waterfront Strand with sandwiches, snacks, a courtyard at the back and a verandah in front.

Local drink: The Lighthouse Tavern in Paihia upstairs on Marsden Road has various sections including a restaurant, bars and a pub, and it features live bands. At Haruru Falls the Twin Pines has a tavern with house brews on tap and entertainment on weekends. The Roadrunner is a pub about a five-minute drive south of Paihia en route to Opu. The Odeon Pub on Williams Road is a lively drinking hole in evenings and also has entertainment.

SHOPPING FACILITIES Renowned artists and craftspeople from all over the world have made Northland their home. Their work is available from retail outlets in Paihia and Russell at reasonable prices. Popular souvenirs produced by Northland artists include kauri products and bone and wood carvings. The local arts and crafts society sets up stalls on the village green in Paihia to cater for cruise ship visits to the Bay of Islands. The main shopping area of Paihia is located directly across the road from the wharf.

LOCAL CURRENCY The currency is the New Zealand Dollar. Foreign exchange rates fluctuate. There is also a slight variation for cash or traveler's checks.

POST OFFICE & TELEPHONE FACILITIES The Paihia Post Office is located directly opposite the wharf. Phone booths are located right on the Paihia Wharf and take all major credit cards and NZ telecom Calling Cards which can be purchased from the Information Bureau. There are also phone booths, which accept coins, credit cards and NZ Calling Cards along the main street of Paihia. Dial the following access numbers to place a call with your personal calling card:

AT&T: 000.911

MCI: 000.912

SPRINT: 000.999

TOURIST INFORMATION Information Bureau, The Wharf, Marsden Road in Paihia.

TRANSPORTATION Paihia township is quite small and most facilities are within walking distance. There are taxis available alongside the wharf if you are interested in driving to another town. Kerikeri, for example is about 30 minutes away. The Russell Passenger Ferry departs every 20 minutes from Paihia Wharf and the ride takes 15 minutes each way.

USEFUL WORDS & PHRASES The language spoken is English; however, Maori greetings are finding increased popularity. Here are a few phrases:

Hello • Kia ora

Good bye • Haere ra

Welcome • Haere mai!

Very well, thank you, ok • Kei te pai

Thank you • Ka pai

How are you? • Kei te pehea koe?

Woman • wahine

Ocean • wainui